

OFFICIALS SEEK FACTS ON SINKING

WILSON BACK
AT WHEEL OF
THE COUNTRY

President Arrives in Washington and Takes Command of Situation.

DIG UP INFORMATION

Every Means Being Employed to Get Accurate Story of the Persia Affair.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Official announcement that the government will act in the newest phase of the submarine trials brought on by the sinking of the Persia was made today at the White House.

Secretary Tumulty issued this statement:

"The president and the secretary of state are taking every means possible to obtain the cold facts in this grave matter and will act just as soon as the information is obtained."

In the absence of detailed information on which to base the next step, President Wilson cancelled the cabinet meeting, which was to have been held today, but conferred with Chairman Stone and some members of the senate foreign relations committee.

Chairman Stone told the president there were intimations some senators were preparing to speak on the sinking of ships with loss of American life. The president is understood to have replied that the administration was doing all it could to protect American rights.

Depend on Penfield Report.

The administration is depending largely on the inquiries which Ambassador Penfield has been instructed to make at Vienna and that which consuls are gathering elsewhere, to establish the nationality of the submarine which is said to have sunk the Persia.

Senator Stone told the president that when the foreign relations committee met tomorrow he wanted to be prepared to meet any situation that might arise. The senator said after his talk with the president that until the facts regarding the Persia were obtained nothing could be done. Any nation, he declared, which outraged the United States should be dealt with severely. Later Chairman Flood of the house foreign affairs committee, called at the White House and conferred with President Wilson on the situation.

IOWA GIRL FIANCEE
OF CONSUL M'NEELY

West Liberty, Iowa, Jan. 4.—Robert N. McNeely, United States consul who lost his life in the Persia sinking, was engaged to marry Miss Wilma Whitacre of West Liberty.

They had planned to be married and go to Aden together, but later decided to put off the ceremony until next spring.

Miss Whitacre was graduated from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., in 1914, and is a member of the Beulah Buck quartet. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Whitacre and is at present spending the holidays with them.

King Peter Talks to Allies' General. Athens, (via London, Jan. 3) (delayed).—King Peter of Serbia, who is now on board a French destroyer at Saloniki, yesterday gave an audience to General Sarail, commander of the French forces there, and Lieutenant General Mahor, commander of the British troops.

DECLINES TO LET
OFFICIALS TALK

Washington, Jan. 4.—Secretary Daniels disclosed today that he had declined to permit either Rear Admiral Fluke or Rear Admiral Knight to speak on the navy program, even though he was assured that the proposed addresses would not be made public. The request for the addresses was made by John W. Scott, president of the Commercial club of Chicago, by telegraph to President Wilson.

Secretary Daniels in reply said it was his conviction that the expert opinion of the navy department having been given to the public and congress, and the president having outlined a policy of naval construction, it is better for civilians to lead the fight for enlargement, while naval officers follow the unbroken policy of not attempting to influence legislation.

ALLIES WORRIED
AT THE ACTIVITY
OF ENEMIES' SUBS

London, Jan. 3, 10:19 p. m.—(Delayed).—The continuance of submarine activity in the Mediterranean which was emphasized today by the news of sinking of the valuable British steamer Glengyle, with the loss of 10 lives, has produced a profound impression in all the entente capitals. There is an insistent demand from the public for vigorous measures against the undersea commerce raiders, but the problem is no easy one for the Anglo-French naval staff.

The Anglo-French press expresses the opinion that some sort of policing of several sections of the intricate Mediterranean coasts and archipelagos is necessary. Presumably the occupation recently by entente forces of the island of Castellorizo, off the south coast of Asia Minor, was one step in the scheme to provide a more thorough control of the regions where submarine bases are supposed to exist.

Expecting Serious Clash. The opinion is expressed here that the central powers are likely to plead as justification for the reported failure to give warning to Mediterranean liners, that the boats frequently have carried a heavy gun for defensive purposes. There seems to be a general impression in the entente capitals that the loss of American life as a result of the British ship Persia must inevitably result in a serious clash between the central allies and the United States.

Appointed Receiver of Factory. New York, Jan. 4.—William H. Coverdale and George W. Morgan were today appointed receivers of the Autosales Gum and Chocolate company by Federal Judge Mayer in an equity suit brought by George W. Holloway and the Mutual Candy company. The Autosales company, a six million dollar corporation, is declared in the complaint to own interests in various candy and gum concerns throughout the United States.

Selecting Price Jury. Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 4.—Selecting a jury to try Frederick T. Price, a Minneapolis business man, charged with murdering his wife, began in district court today. The prosecution charges Price pushed his wife from a cliff and caused her death in order to inherit her money.

MAN IS DROWNED
IN MISSISSIPPI

Memphis, Tenn., Jan. 4.—L. H. Prentice, aged 27, vice president of L. H. Prentice company of Chicago, was drowned in the Mississippi river near Bolivar Landing, Mississippi, late Monday evening, according to a private telegram received here today. No further particulars have been received. The telegram was sent by Captain W. H. Sampson of Chicago, who has been spending the holidays in that vicinity.

Give Figures
Enlisted on
Derby Plan

London, Jan. 4.—Lord Derby's recruiting figures for the period between Oct. 22 and Dec. 15 show that 1,150,000 unmarried men and 1,679,263 married men presented themselves for services.

Of the grand total of 2,829,263 married and single men, 103,000 unmarried and 112,431 married men enlisted immediately. Eight hundred and forty thousand single men and 1,344,979 married men were attested for future service.

Of the single men 207,000 were rejected, while 221,853 married men were not accepted by the recruiting officers.

INTRODUCE BILL
ON RURAL CREDIT

Washington, Jan. 4.—The administration rural credits bill was introduced in congress today in both house and senate.

Government control of the system would be in a federal farm loan board of five appointed by the president for ten years each. Loans would be made to farmers by twelve or more federal land banks, each operating in a separate district with capital of not less than \$500,000, which would be taken by the government, if not privately subscribed.

TRY TO DISCOVER
EXPLOSION CAUSE

New York, Jan. 4.—The work of floating the tank steamer Aztec, which sank in Erie basin after an explosion as a result of which two men are known to be dead and ten others are missing, was begun today. The explosion, which occurred yesterday afternoon, burst open the sides of the vessel and she filled with water and sank at the pier. The two men known to have been killed were blown through a hatchway on the Aztec's deck. It is believed that the bodies of ten men who were at work in her hold when the explosion occurred are in the submerged wreckage.

THE WEATHER

Forecast Till 7 P. M. Tomorrow, for Rock Island, Davenport, Moline and Vicinity.

Rain or snow and colder tonight, with the lowest temperature about freezing. Wednesday, snow and much colder.

Temperature at 7 a. m., 40. Highest yesterday, 35. Lowest last night, 31. Velocity of wind at 7 a. m., 12 miles per hour.

Precipitation, none. Relative humidity at 7 p. m., 79; at 7 a. m., 66; at 1 p. m. today, 75. Stage of water, 7.4; a rise of .5 in last 24 hours.

J. M. SHERIER, Local Forecaster.

ATTACK ON POLICY
FAILS TO MATURE
IN FIRST SESSION

DAY IN CONGRESS. Senate: Adjourned out of respect to the memory of the late Justice Lamar until noon tomorrow. An expected attack on the administration's foreign policy thus failed to materialize.

House: Secretary McAdoo asked rush appropriation of \$100,000 for rural sanitation and fighting typhoid and pellagra.

The administration rural credits bill introduced.

Naval affairs committee arranged to begin public hearing tomorrow.

Representative Campbell of Kansas introduced a resolution for creation of an international federation of nations to preserve international law.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.—An expected attack on the administration's foreign policy and its course in the submarine crisis, failed to materialize in the senate today when that body, after being in session less than ten minutes, adjourned until noon tomorrow.

The reason assigned to the sudden adjournment by leaders on both sides was that several senators who had expected to have business to present, did not have it ready. The motion on which the senate adjourned, however, was in observance of the death of Justice Lamar of the supreme court.

Chairman Stone of the foreign relations committee, in conference with President Wilson over the submarine crisis earlier in the day told the president he had heard intimations that some senators were going to assail the administration's course, and that some others were going to attack the Mexican policy.

FATE OF STEAMER
DISTURBS TOKIO

Tokio, Dec. 10, (Correspondence).—Great anxiety is felt at Tokio concerning the fate of the cargo boat Senju Maru of the Tatsuima Steamship company, which has not been heard of since she left Oran for Port Said Nov. 24. The crew numbers 50. The foreign office has instituted inquiries for the vessel but the families of the men are fearing that she may have been sunk by a submarine in the Mediterranean.

The Japanese government has opened negotiations with Spain for the release of the officers and crew, 48 in all, of the steamer Yasakuni Maru, which was torpedoed last month by a German submarine in the Mediterranean. It appears that the men are in the hands of the Spanish authorities in Morocco where they took refuge after the steamer had been attacked.

Monitor Survivor Dead.

Philadelphia, Jan. 4.—William Durst, 76, said to be the sole survivor of the crew of the monitor which engaged the Merrimac in the historic battle in Hampton Roads, died at his home here today from pneumonia.

DISASTER OF
PERSIA TOLD
BY SURVIVOR

Lone American Rescued From Torpedoed Ship Reviews His Experience.

STORY CORROBORATED

Tragedy as Described by Charles Grant Coincides With Dispatches.

Alexandria, Egypt, Jan. 4 (via London, 10:30 a. m.).—Charles Grant of Boston, one of the two Americans known to have been on board the British steamship Persia when she was torpedoed in the Mediterranean last Thursday, has arrived in Alexandria. Mr. Grant, so far as is known, is the only American from whom can come the story of the Persia's sinking. He gave to the Associated Press today the most detailed account yet received of the disaster:

"I was in the dining saloon of the Persia at 1:05 p. m.," he said. "I had just finished my soup and the steward was asking what I would take for my second course when a terrific explosion occurred."

No Panic on Board.

"The saloon became filled with smoke, broken glass and steam from the boiler, which appeared to have burst. There was no panic on board. We went on deck as though we were at drill and reported at the lifeboats on the starboard side, as the vessel had listed to port. I clung to the railing. The last thing done was to tie on Captain Sprickley's life belt."

"As the vessel was then listing so badly that it was impossible to launch the starboard boats, I slid down the starboard rail into the water. I got caught in a rope which pulled off a shoe, but I broke loose and climbed on some floating wreckage, to which I clung."

Sank in Five Minutes. "The last I saw of the Persia she had her bow in the air, five minutes after the explosion."

"After floating about on the wreckage until 4 o'clock in the morning I saw five boats. I was pulled into one of them. We rowed about, looking for other stragglers."

"The boats became overloaded and the occupants were redistributed. Four boats were tied together by their painters and the fifth followed some distance away."

American Consul Not Seen.

"My boat left the others in order to search the more frequented steamship channels for help. We rowed for three hours. Then we saw a cruiser and called out, 'We are English.' We explained that we were survivors of the Persia and gave directions to the cruiser as to where the other boats were. They were soon found and the occupants taken off immediately by the English sailors."

"Robert McNeely, American consul at Aden, sat at the same table with me on the voyage. He was not seen, probably because his cabin was on the port side."

"It was a horrible scene. The water was as black as ink. Some passengers were screaming, others were calling out good-bye. Those in one boat sang hymns."

Storm Affects Cables.

New York, Jan. 4.—Trans-Atlantic cable communication has been crippled or delayed by severe storms which have swept over Ireland, England and the continent. Land telegraph lines connecting the cable station in England with London and other cities are also affected by the storm.

Fall Fatal to Kewanee Man.

Kewanee, Ill., Jan. 4.—A. E. Anderson, long a resident here, while going downstairs yesterday fainted and was killed in the fall.

CZAR NAMES HIS
PRICE FOR PEACE

London, Jan. 4, (5:59 a. m.).—During a review of the Russian army on Jan. 2, Emperor Nicholas delivered an address to the Chevaliers of the Order of St. George, according to a news agency dispatch from Petrograd. The emperor expressed profound appreciation of the services of the troops and said:

"I will not conclude peace till we have expelled the last enemy from our territory. I will only conclude it with the full accord of our allies."

Ford Dodges
Welcome of
Home Folks

Detroit, Jan. 4.—Henry Ford, leader of the peace mission to The Hague, returned to Detroit today. At the railway station he avoided a delegation of local citizens who had planned to welcome him and present him with a floral piece. He remained in his private car and proceeded to his country home at Dearborn. A public meet soon in honor of Mr. Ford is being planned.

The only members of the Ford party who left the train in Detroit was Rev. Samuel Marquis, dean of St. Paul's cathedral here. He said that early tomorrow morning he will go to the Ford factory where he is under engagement for a year to study sociological conditions among the 20,000 employees of the factory.

LITTLE CHANGE IN
HUERTA'S HEALTH

El Paso, Texas, Jan. 4.—The condition of Victoriano Huerta, former provisional president of Mexico, who is seriously ill at his home here, was reported unchanged early today after an operation for gall stones Saturday. A second operation to remove a quantity of fluid from the intestinal tract was performed late yesterday. The patient appeared much relieved by the operation.

Guards, placed about the Huerta home after his removal from Fort Bliss, where he was detained on the charge of violating the neutrality laws of the United States, have been removed upon instructions from federal authorities at San Antonio, Texas.

BRITISH CABINET
OFFICER RESIGNS

London, Jan. 4, (2 a. m.).—It again becomes evident that the cabinet crisis is far from ended. The only definite point is that Sir John Simon, secretary of state for home affairs, has resigned. He had a prolonged interview with Premier Asquith yesterday. The premier did his utmost to induce Sir John to remain in the cabinet, but without avail, and it is almost certain that the home secretary's resignation will be officially announced on the reassembling of parliament.

The position of Reginald McKenna, chancellor of the exchequer, and Walter Runciman, president of the board of trade, is still undecided.

Prominent Des Moines Man Dies. Des Moines, Jan. 4.—Arrangements were being made today for the funeral of Dr. Thomas F. Kelleher, prominent in Iowa medical circles, who died at his home here last night. He was 61 years old and had been ill for several months.

THE WAR TODAY

President Wilson returned to Washington today and consulted with members of the senate foreign relations committee regarding the situation created by the submarine campaign in the Mediterranean. The president and Secretary of State Lansing are taking every means possible to obtain the exact facts and will act as soon as the information is obtained. It was announced in a statement issued by the president's secretary.

Particulars regarding the sinking of the Peninsular and Oriental steamer Geelong are still lacking, except that it is known that there was no loss of life when she went down.

Under the Earl of Derby's plan for British recruiting 2,829,263 men presented themselves for service, 1,679,263 being married and 1,150,000 unmarried.

The British cabinet is expected to consider the draft of the compulsion bill today. London considers further changes in the cabinet possible owing to divergence of views over this problem.

Petrograd reports the continuation of heavy fighting on the front from Volhynia to Bukowina and claims that the Russian forces are continuing to advance northeast of Czernowitz despite numerous counter attacks.

Formal announcement was made in the house of commons of the resignation of Sir John Simon, secretary of state for home affairs. His resignation was because of his non-agreement with the decision reached by the cabinet on the question of compulsion.

The German war office announced that important developments on the various fronts were lacking yesterday.

RUSS FOE PUT
TO FLIGHT ON
GALICIA LINE

Petrograd Tells of Continued Retreat of the Teutonic Forces Before Drive.

COUNTER ATTACK FAILS

Germans Attempt to Relieve Pressure by Charge, but Without Result.

Petrograd, Jan. 3, 2 p. m. (via London, 8:20 p. m.—Delayed).—By holding the Teutonic forces on the line of the Vladimir-Volynskiy, on the Galician frontier, while fortifying and pressing forward at some points, the Russians have checked the German attempt to advance from the direction of Kolki and improve their position along the Kovel-Sarny eastward towards Sarny. North of Czartorysk the Russians drove the Germans back and occupied Khraisk. The very fact that the Russians are advancing along the Kovel-Rovno railway is held by military men to be of great importance, since it indicates a concentration with a view of taking Kovel, an important point of communication between the German and Austrian front. In order to relieve the pressure on the Kovel-Sarny line, the Teutons counter attacked southwest of Kolki, but without result, it is announced here.

Driven Back 15 Miles. On the Galician front, it is stated in reports received in Petrograd, between the rivers Sereth and Strypa, before which the Russian troops had taken up positions, the Russians apparently have commenced an offensive and advanced as far as the left bank of the Strypa between Bucacz and Sokolow. The region on the left bank of the Strypa is still held against serious attempts of the Austrians to advance. The greatest activity appears now along the Strypa on both sides of Bucacz. Here the Russians have driven the opposing forces back from 15 to 17 miles from their positions. It is stated the Russians continue to hold and to fortify the newly acquired territory, although the battle is still progressing.

900 Germans Taken. The capture of the heights north of Czernowitz, where nearly 900 prisoners were taken, is held by military experts here to be of special importance. They predict that it probably will result in forcing the evacuation of Czernowitz by the Teutonic allies, giving the Russians a strong foothold in the center of Bukowina and control of the railways into Rumania.

Austrians Forced Back. The Ruskys invade prints the following regarding the situation: "The Russian offensive on the long front of 225 miles from Czartorysk to the Rumanian frontier started when our troops crossed to the left bank of the Strypa, taking Khraisk, at the foot of the Medvedzki heights. The Austrians are making every effort to retake these heights, which command the Strypa. North of Olka and at Silyn our troops advanced and fortified the occupied region of Uscieczko, 10 miles north of Zaleszczyk, and forced the Austrians to the right bank of the Dniester."

Germans Tax Amusements. Berlin, Jan. 4, (via London).—The authorities of Neukoelln, one of Berlin's largest suburbs, have decided to impose an amusement tax. Ten per cent of the receipts of all theatres and similar amusements will be collected.

Kewanee Raises \$200 for Poles. Kewanee, Ill., Jan. 4.—Kewanee raised more than \$200 for war sufferers in Poland through the efforts of a committee appointed for the American-Polish day by Mayor Baker.

VENTILATE DON'T
HIBERNATE, URGED

Chicago, Jan. 4.—"Ventilate, don't hibernate," was the warning given Chicagoans today by Dr. John Dill Robertson, health commissioner, as a result of the epidemic of grippé, which has attacked thousands of persons in this city. There were 398 deaths caused by pneumonia here last week.

"Keep windows open in bed rooms and remain out of doors as much as possible," the warning continues. "Fresh air kills germs that may kill you."